THE SWORD OF THE LORD

and of John R. Rice

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20.

An Independent Religious Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Sin, Modernism, and Denominational Overlordship

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"MISTAKES" IN THE BIBLE

Sermon Preached Sunday Night, June 21, 1936. Stenographically Reported

Now I have here in my hands a few objections or "contradictions" so-called or questions or doubts that trouble some people about the Bible. About this service here tonight, if there is an honest doubter here, won't you say, "I am willing to find out. I am going to put it to a test and find out if the Bible is all so." But first we ought to have a prayer that God will open our hearts.

I say frankly, there was a time when I was afraid of infidels. When someone would point one out to me and say, "You see that old hard-looking customer over there He is an infidel," I used to tremble in my boots, not literally, but I was a little embarrassed to talk to him. I was a little afraid of him. What if he asked me such a question? I didn't know what I would say to him. But I am not afraid of an infidel any more. I have just what he needs, and I am not afraid to turn loose both barrels of my shotgun on him. I have found this wonderful thing about the Bible. Thank God, it works! It works on infidels the same as any other sinner. I just double-dog dare anybody, I don't care how bad a sinner he is, if he will come and sit on the front seat, he will either get mad and quit coming, or he will get soft and get where he will hear the gospel.

I make just this statement. The Bible, Brother, is the answer itself to the problems a man has about the Bible. I am not embarrassed to answer your questions tonight. I do not know all about the Bible. There are a whole lot of fine things about the Bible that if I knew I might be able to convince you more forcibly, but every man can be convinced by what I can bring. I have tried it enough to know for myself. But you can find out for yourself whether the Bible is all true and the Word of God without a mistake or contradiction so that you can absolutely believe it is reliable and trust it implicitly as your mother and your father did. Now let's pray for God to guide us.

PRAYER: Our dear Father, somebody here tonight (may be) an honest doubter. Somebody who is saved doubts whether the Bible is all so. Somebody wants to know. We have heard so much talk about it. We have been taught in the schools that evolution is true and that the Bible is not true. And God forgive us, many preachers have said, "Well, the early part of the Bible is not inspired as the last part is." They have taught a so-called progressive revelation, and little by little have stolen away the faith of people in Thy Word. Now, Father, move on the hearts of the people. I pray if there be an agnostic, an infidel, one who is an atheist, one who doesn't know but who longs to know, give them grace to say in their hearts, "I am going to listen. That man may help me. If the Bible is so and is God's Word and if it can prove itself to me, I ought to know it, and if there is a God, I ought to love Him and serve Him."

There are men here who say, I believe the Bible, but have turned down the Christ of the Bible. Stir their hearts and convict and save them even tonight. Oh, tonight save sinners here. Dear Lord, we do not come just for an academic discussion with people who do not believe the Bible, we are not interested in debates alone, but we are fishing for the souls of lost men and women here. Turn their hearts to you, we pray. Help them to love you and trust you. Let them know they must give an account to God for the way they hear tonight. Let people be saved tonight and go home the children of God. Help me tonight. Bring to mind the Scriptures I ought to use. For Jesus' sake, Amen.

Now if God does not help us, it will not be profitable, but I believe the dear Lord will help us. I have some questions here. For instance, here is one: "What relation do the dinosaurs have to the Bible?" Evidently he means the great fossilized animals that have been found and that are pictured in the Sinclair exhibit at the Centennial. That question is of interest to scientists.

Here is another: "Where did Cain get his wife?" Let me say now, this is an honest question. I believe preachers have made a mistake and done wrong and lost the confidence of a lot of people because they didn't face such questions as these. I have heard preachers make a joke of where Cain got his wife. Brother Cunningham, he did get a wife. I heard preachers say, "you had better be more concerned about your own wife," and I've heard them say, "Cain married his father-in-law's daughter." That is all right, but it isn't an honest answer to an honest inquiry. I know where Cain got his wife and I can tell you so it will satisfy your mind if you will listen to the Word of God.

Bible Claims to be Inspired Word for Word

Here are some things about the Bible. What the Bible says about itself. I want you to come with a reverent heart to understand the Bible. To do that, let's see what the Bible says for itself. Does the Bible claim to be inspired word for word? I answer back without any hesitation, absolutely it does. This Bible claims to be the Word of God. It claims that it is inspired of God. It claims to be written in Heaven. Now listen, it claims that the very words of this book are God's words. That is what this Bible claims for itself. Mark what I say, the Bible does not claim that after it has been copied and recopied and translated into the English language that then that *English version* or the King James version are the very words of God. It does not say that God dictated the English words in our translation. I do not say that. Intelligent Bible students do not say that. The Bible does say, however, that God had men to write it down, and He gave the very words. He gave the words themselves. And because of that God will hold men to account for what they do with the very words of this book to such an extent that God says about it,

"If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book.

"And if any man shall take away prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book" (Rev. 22:18, 19).

All right then, this Bible I say, claims to be the very words of God, and that is so to such an extent as to be infallible, and this Bible claims that God dictated the very words of it in the original languages.

Now to prove that. I Corinthians the 2nd chapter gives a plain rule for the inspiration of the Bible. Verses 9 and following say,

"But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit; for the spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God."

Now then, verse 13:

"Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual."

Notice that verse carefully. Paul says "the things that God revealed by His Spirit, I am teaching those things. And I teach them, not in the words of man's wisdom, but in the words the Holy Ghost teacheth." Here is God's recipe for divine inspiration. Here is God's explanation of divine inspiration. What does God mean when He says the Bible is inspired? He means that God gave the thoughts to the men who wrote them down, and then God gave the words in which they were written. There is not a shadow of room for a mistake.

That isn't all. Look over a little farther. Jesus Himself said not one jot or tittle of the law would pass away until all be fulfilled, which means that God claims that He gave even the spelling of the words so that there is absolutely no room at all for human error in the Book in the manuscripts which God gave to men to write down.

If I take the Word of God and translate it into Spanish and some other men translate it into the English language, I cannot be sure that every word is accurate, and God is not saying that always everytime some man translates it that it will be accurate, but God does say as He gave it, it is the very Word of God. Let's put it, the very WORDS of God. It happens that in the King James version and even better in the Revised Version that not more than one word in every 10,000 is even in question. That means only one word in several pages. Not more than one word in every twenty pages is even questioned by scholars. I mean that the Bible is so accurately translated from the original that there is mighty little room for mistake in English. But in the original manuscripts there were no mistakes at all. God gave the words by His Spirit and scripture is written down not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth.

Now let's turn back to the 24th chapter of Exodus and I will show you what God said about even the Old Testament books of Moses. I mean about Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy which were written by the hand of Moses. What does the Bible say about the way they were inspired?

"And Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord" — not just the word of the Lord, but all the *words* of the Lord. God gave the very words. Now listen — *"and all the judgments; and all the people answered with one voice, and said, All the words which the Lord hath said will we do. And Moses WROTE ALL THE WORDS of the Lord, and rose up early in the morning and builded an altar under the hill, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of*

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

Baptist Camp Meeting July 10-19 at Decatur

By Rev. E. L. Banta

Plans have been completed for an Old Time Camp Meeting which we trust will be a time of Fellowship, Bible Study, spiritual blessings and Soul Winning. One and one half mile from Decatur, Texas, is a beautiful grove known as the Old Settlers Reunion Grounds. This grove has fine grass and large shade trees which makes it a splendid place to conduct a Camp meeting.

The Meeting will be conducted in a large tabernacle, with roof and no sides, which will seat several hundred people. There is a fine well of water on the ground with an electric pump, also electric lights. This is a splendid place to spend your vacation and at the same time feast on the Word of God.

Daily Program

There will be a treat of good things from early morning till late at night.

7:00 A. M. Prayer Meeting.
9:30 A. M. Song and Praise Service, conducted by Rev. W. G. Stroh.
10:00 A. M. — Bible Study from the Song of Solomon, by Rev. Scott Hickey.
10:40 A. M. Bible Study. Book of Philippians.
11:20 A. M. Sermon subject, "A Story of the Future" from the book of Revelation, by Rev. E. L. Banta.
2:30 P. M. Song and Praise service.
3:00 P. M. One half hour for Bible questions or Open Forum.
3:30 P. M. Special Young People's Service, Rev. W. G. Stroh in charge.
7:00 P. M. Old Fashioned Grove Meeting, for four different groups: 1. Adult men; 2. Adult Women; 3. Young People; 4. Children. Leaders will be announced daily.
8:00 P. M. Evangelistic Message by Camp Meeting Director, Evangelist Rev. E. L. Banta.

Other Speakers

Rev. John R. Rice will be present during part of the camp meeting. We are expecting him two days at least, July 16th and 17th. and he will speak several times.

Rev. C. D. Owen of Vernon, Texas, is coming and will have a part on the program. Rev. Joe Scheumack of Fort Worth expects to camp on the grounds, and will speak at various times. Several other ministers have stated they were coming for a day or two at least and will be given a place on the program when they come, if possible. Many from Dallas, Fort Worth, Oklahoma City, Okla, and other places have expressed their intentions to attend the camp meeting.

Broadcasting Ministers' Day

Friday, July 17th will be observed as "Broadcasting Ministers' Day" and several have consented to be present and take part in the program who are now broadcasting over the various Radio Stations in this section of Texas. Hear your favorite "Radio Preacher" and see him in person on that day. The following have consented to be present, the Lord willing: Rev. John R. Rice, Dallas; Rev. W. E. Hawkins, Jr., Dallas! Rev. Joe Scheumack, Fort Worth; Rev. John Lovell, Dublin. Then there will be special singing during the camp meeting by the Bantas and Rev. W. G. Stroh whom you enjoy hearing over KRLD and WRR. We expect the Matthews Sisters' Quartette to be present from Dallas during some of the camp.

Entertainment

Tents, Cots, Meals, etc.

You may rent a tent any size up to 16 x 16 ft. for $5.00 for the ten days. Cots may be rented for fifty cents for the ten days. IF YOU WISH A TENT, WRITE REV. SCOTT HICKEY, DECATUR, TEXAS, BY JULY THE FOURTH.

There will be a tent 30 ft. x 50 ft.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

Gainesville Revival Begins Happily

With a fine crowd, including six local pastors, two Baptists, one Presbyterian, one Methodist, one Nazarine and one Holiness, I began a revival on the Market Square in Gainesville, Texas, Tuesday night. These lines are dictated as we drive back to Dallas Tuesday night. Tomorrow we will rent a house in Gainesville for a month, God willing, and throw our best efforts, day and night, into the revival.

We have a very attractive set-up, seats, lights, choir platform and piano, hundreds of new song books and the open sky above us.

The elevated choir platform, 16 x 36 feet holds fifteen ten and twelve foot benches seating over a hundred people. Brother W. G. Stroh will soon have it full, we trust. We have many benches and expect to need more in a few days. A fine crowd of several hundred heard the first sermon, and a half-dozen held their hands as unsaved people who hope to find Christ in this revival. We know, of course, that they can if they will. No invitation was given, but the power and presence of the Lord was manifest.

I will return to Dallas each Sunday morning to preach in the Fundamentalist Baptist Tabernacle and teach my large Sunday School class.

We urge all to pray for this revival. May God put His blessings upon it!

"MISTAKES" IN THE BIBLE—

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Israel. And he sent young men of the children of Israel, which offered burnt-offerings, and sacrificed peace-offerings of oxen unto the Lord. And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins; and half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar. And he took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people; and they said, All that the Lord hath said will we do, and be obedient. And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the Lord hath made with you concerning all these words."

Now notice this. The words were God's words which the people heard and Moses wrote those words which God gave in a book, and that book is what we have today, this part of the Bible, this part that Moses wrote.

There is much more. I could spend a whole evening on that. In Jeremiah—I could show you in Isaiah and in Ezekiel too, but here are some good verses in Jeremiah which tell how the book is inspired. God called him and said in Jeremiah 1:9:

"Then the Lord put forth his hand, and touched my mouth, And the Lord said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth."

Now when Jeremiah the prophet prophesied, what he prophesied was from God and the words were God's words. Were those words written? Are they the words that we have in our Bible? Yes. Turn to Jeremiah the 30th chapter and see what the Scripture says:

"The words that came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying, Thus speaketh the Lord God of Israel, saying, Write thee all the words that I have spoken unto thee in a book."

Jeremiah wrote down the words of the Lord in a book.

Any man who says there are mistakes in that Bible and you cannot take if for what it says. . . that the Bible is not what it claims to be—that it claims to be the very Word of God—but it isn't so. Any man who says there are mistakes in the Bible and if he proves that there is a mistake and not just a difference in translation, anybody who proves there is a mistake in this Word of God, then you have proved the Bible is not the Word of God but a pack of lies! And mark you, when you prove that, it proves that Jesus Christ is a faker, for He believed it all and endorsed it all. It claims repeatedly to be the Word of God. And that isn't all. All we know about Christ is in that Book. When you prove one mistake in that Bible, and prove it is not what it claims to be, you prove that Jesus Christ is not the Son of God. If you find one mistake in that Bible, you have lost your God, and lost your Christ and lost the New Testament religion altogether. Christianity depends on an inspired, reliable Bible.

If you are willing to face it fair and square, you can know. I know what I am talking about. I put it to a test and found out, and now I challenge you. Anybody who wants to know can find out whether the Word of God is all true. Before I get through, I will tell you how to know without taking my word of explanation. Even though I cannot satisfy you with my explanation, yet you can have it settled before you sleep tonight and have no more doubts about it.

Direct Creation or Evolution—Which?

Now about some questions. The first is about creation: "Did God make Adam out of dirt?" I answer back, the Bible plainly says so. Let's read what God's Word says. I had rather take that than any book of science. Scientists come along and say the Bible isn't so, that the Bible is mistaken, that God didn't just say "Let there be light and there was light." They say that the Bible isn't so. They say that no such thing happened as the whale swallowing Jonah, that is not so. "I will write a book that tells the truth about it," the scientist says, so he writes a book to teach in the university, does this scientist who says the Bible is out of date. But his book has not been used but three, four, five, six years or at the most, ten years, hasn't gone by until it is out of date and this man's book is shown up to be all wrong and a failure and the book is proved to be not true. Before a man is dead, his book is usually discredited. That is the reason why Henry Drummond, when at the University of Edinburg, I believe it was, a certain man made a donation of a fine lot of new books on science, and someone said to him, "What shall we do about it? We do not have any room on the shelves of the library for these books. What shall we do with them?" And Henry Drummond said, "Take every book off the shelf on scientific matters if it is over ten years old and make room for the new books. They are all out of date any way."

There is plenty of truth in that. No book tells the truth about science like the Bible does. The Bible never gets out of date.

Now for what the Bible says about God making man. Genesis 2:7 tells what God's Word says about it:

"And the Lord God formed man out of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul."

First of all, that is a reasonable thing. Any man who says, "I can't believe God made man. . ." Well, Brother, where did he come from then? Someone says, "Brother Rice, you must be awfully credulous to believe the Bible." That is easy. It is a very sensible thing. It has been proven right so long and by so many people, that one would be a fool not to believe the Bible. The man is a fool who takes what the high school teacher or the college professor says who has some theory and says the Bible is out of date, and says that man came from evolution. What did you come from? That red haired ape, that gorilla, or that old orang-outang they were feeding soda pop out of a bottle to, down at the zoo today? You may be descended from those monkeys that swung today from their tails and fell in the pool and went swimming, but as far as I am concerned, my grand-dad didn't hang from a tree by his tail! If you went back far enough, you might find some of my ancestors who hung by the neck, but I don't have any, thank God, who hung by the tail! I am certain about that.

But you say, "Well, but evolution sounds so reasonable." I don't think so. For instance, take this wrist watch that was given to me by my uncle who is now dead, back in 1917 or 18 when I was in the United States Army, during the war. Suppose I say, "Isn't that funny the way this watch just accidentally got together? Isn't it marvelous what evolution does! Just think, now in this world there is iron ore, gold, silver, sand or silica that they make glass of and other things like that, scattered around with the dirt blowing and the water washing it down and it got together just right and turned out to be a watch without a watchmaker. Isn't evolution grand?" And you would say, "Evolution may be grand, all right, but you have gone nutty." No, evolution cannot make a watch. Did anybody ever say that evolution can make a watch? There is plenty of gold, and iron ore and plenty of leather for the band, but did anybody ever know throughout the years past or through the centuries of these things just happening to get together to make a watch? No. Some man has got to make it. Some man designed it and planned it and put the hands there so that one goes around twelve times as fast as the other, and some man put the numbers one, two, three, four, five, and on up to twelve on there just exactly right. It didn't just happen to be that way. A watch is not accidental, it is not just a "happen so," and I am not an accident, either. God made me on purpose and made me this way. Any explanation of man but direct creation is unreasonable.

It didn't happen as the scientists say that back there millions of years ago something wiggled in the mud—one little cell. After awhile it stuck up so that one side got a sun spot on it and after millions of years that developed into an eye. Doesn't that sound bright? They tell that perfectly seriously and say that is how we got started. He stayed there in the mud through millions of years and scraped around and irritated his stomach and after awhile legs grew out there. That is where he had to get them. It was all an accident. God didn't make them they say. Then after another long period of years, not only just something wiggled, but he got to be a crawfish maybe, and then a catfish, and then a bird, and after awhile it got to be a monkey and then a jackass and then an evolution professor, and all that as easy as pie! A man is a fool who believes all that stuff. He needs examining in the head if he believes that can explain *man* formed in the image of God.

My God made this earth and God said, "I will people it with the things of the forest." He made the flowers with their lovely fragrance because He loved their perfume. He planned it. He wanted the rose and its sweet incense, so He made it. He wanted the bees that gather on it and get the pollen and take it for honey. He also planned it so it would have thorns on it to protect it from destruction. He made the lily of the valley. He made the little humming bird. God made the canaries that sing so sweetly, and He made the mocking birds that sing by my bedroom window at night and God made the animals of the forest and God made man and breathed a soul into him and he became a living soul! Now that is reasonable. It is unreasonable not to believe that and to believe that God just let all that happen by accident and He didn't do it on purpose. The fact is, what the Bible says about the origin of man and the origin of animals is so clearly in accord with what we know that any man is a fool not to believe it.

Why Evolution Cannot Work—God Says Animals Must Bring Forth "After Their Kind"

But the Bible shows why evolution cannot be a fact, why no new species originate. There can be development within the species, but there is not one known and observed instance of a new species beginning. The links are all missing!

Ten different times the Lord says they shall bring forth each after his kind. He said about animals that they should bring forth "after their kind." When He was talking about fish He said they should bring forth "after their kind." Trees were to bring forth "after his kind," and that is the way it was. Sure, that is reason.

When you cross a donkey with a horse you get a mule. And a mule won't reproduce. I challenge anybody: did anybody see this mule out here or it was supposed to be a mule that had a colt? Did anybody see that mule? I tell you now that was a fake. The fact of the business is that was a mare and not a mule at all. There is not one case on record which anybody will swear to where a hybrid reproduced itself. God put it down in the Bible thousands of years ago that when plants and animals reproduce that they do it "after his kind." God said a horse is not going to turn out to be something else. I won't grow out of the species.

Burbank developed new kinds of plants. Mark this interesting thing. Every time a hybrid is developed, it has to be artificially reproduced. It won't reproduce itself. That is why some plants have to be reproduced by cutting. They won't bring forth seed. That is interesting, but it is true. The Bible says, "after his kind."

The best argument I ever heard for evolution is this. A man—this is a case I can't answer—a man went hunting in New Mexico and ran into a mountain lion. He tried to shoot the lion and missed, and tried again and the gun jammed. So he ran down the hillside as fast as he could, and ran to an old vinegar mill. They raise apples in New Mexico in the mountains. He saw an old hogshead, so he jumped in and pulled it over his head. The mountain lion jumped on top of that hogshead and scratched and snarled and swished her tail around. The man reached through the bunghole and got hold of the tail and pulled it inside the barrel and tied a knot in it. That hurt the old mountain lion's tail and she pumped off spitting and ran off down the side of the hill with the hogshead bounding along behind her.

Next year this same man went out again and went hunting, and he saw this same mountain lion. The reason he knew it was the same lion, she still had the barrel on her tail. And now this is the argument about evolution that I can't answer. She had four little mountain lions, and all of them had little kegs on their tails! At least so I heard the story, but I was not there.

That is the best proof I ever heard of evolution, and I do not believe that any more than you do!

Where Did Cain Get His Wife?

Now this question, "Where did Cain get his wife?" How could he find a wife if Adam and Eve were the first man and first woman, as the Bible says. Here is how that could be that Cain got his wife. If you will be patient I will show you. I remind you in every case there is an answer if you will study very carefully. Let's see what the Lord said about Cain so I can show you where Cain got his wife. Now in the 4th chapter of Genesis, the Lord says about Cain,

"And Cain went out from the presence of the Lord, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden.

"And Cain knew his wife; and she conceived, and bare Enoch: and he builded a city, etc."

The Scripture here does not say that there Cain *met* his wife, but that a child was conceived and born. Now read on in the 5th chapter of Genesis, verses 3 to 5:

"And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth:

"And the days of Adam after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years: and he begat sons and daughters:

"And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years: and he died."

Now listen. After Cain was born, and after Abel was born, and after Seth was born, Adam lived 800 years and begat sons and daughters, and all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years. Who did Cain marry?

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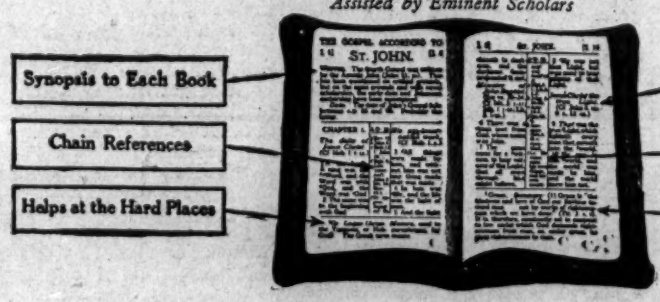

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"MISTAKES" IN THE BIBLE—

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

He married his own sister. Eight hundred years Adam and Eve lived and begat sons and daughters, the Scripture says, don't you think in that length of time he could have had some girls and Cain could have married one of them? Sure, and that is where Cain got her, too. How do you know? Because the Scripture says in the New Testament that God made of one blood all races on the earth (Acts 17:26). Adam said about Eve, "I will call her name Eve for she is the mother of all living." and she was the mother of Cain's wife. Every question like that has an answer in the Word of God if you will just read carefully and study it.

Did Men Actually Live 800 and 900 Years?

Some one says, "Brother Rice, do you believe that story about men living eight and nine hundred years before the flood like the Bible says they did? Do you believe Adam lived literally 930 years?" Yes, I believe that. Some one says, "That is bound to be a mistake. Well, I tell you, Brother Rice, that must mean instead of 900 years, it must mean 900 months. Those writers got mixed up and they went by the change of the moon and they didn't know much about astronomy. That really ought to have been months instead of years. That would make them about seventy-five years old and that would be about right." But one thing funny happens when you do that. Instead of believing the Bible, you say we will make a year mean a month, and I will show you what happens. Here the Scripture says, "And Cainan lived seventy years, and begat Mahalaleel (Gen. 5:2). Now listen what happens. That makes him married and having a family before he was quite six years old! Seventy years—that's all right, but seventy months — that makes him have children when he is five years and ten months old. Look in verse 15, "And Mahaleleel lived sixty and five years and begat sons and daughters:" (Gen. 5:15), so he had children when only five years and five months old! No, let's believe it was years, like the Bible says.

But you say, "How could it be that a man would live that long?" That was before they had lived through thousands of generations of sin, wickedness and sickness. They had just come out of the Garden of Eden where they had been eating of the tree of life. God sent them out lest they should live forever, by getting the immortal strength that came from that fruit What can you do about that then? Believe it, it works. We find a slow decay in strength from that time on. After the flood Shem lived 500 years. Abraham lived 175 years, Isaac lived 185 years, Jacob lived 147 years, and so on. Then Joseph lived 120 years, and the normal life now is only seventy years.

All right, now about the flood. You say, "Is the flood possible? Was it scientifically true? I answer back, yes. It was not only possible, but it was true. You say, "I can't see how there would be that much water." Because you don't see how, that doesn't prove there is not plenty of water. You can go to the Panhandle of Texas or many other places and let down a well 180 feet or so or 150 feet or in some places about eighty feet and pump out a ten inch stream as big as a man's body that flows out hour after hour and day after day and week after week and month after month. Where does all that water come from? It comes from an inexhaustible sea of water somewhere. And right on the next farm it is the same way and they use it for irrigation. When the flood came, the Bible said two things about it. Not only did it rain forty days and nights, but there were two other unusual sources of water and not just the rain alone. The fountains of the great deep were broken up in the ground and the unmeasured seas that were in the heart of the earth flooded out and covered the ground. And what else? And the windows of Heaven opened and all the water

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

"JESUS AND PETER"

(Continued from Last Issue)

You don't have to sin. That is all your own fault. Someone says, "Well, Brotner Rice, do you believe in sinless perfection?" Like I have said many times before, I say, "I believe in it but I do not practice it." And nobody else does but Jesus. I could do right about some particular thing, but I don't. I am just too mean, that is all. But don't you want to? Yes, I want to. Why don't you do right? I don't know unless it is the wickedness that is in me. This much I know, after He warns me and after He tells me then He still loves me and still prays for me and still keeps me. O, love that will not let me go!"

Jesus Warns, Loves, Prays for, and Then, Thank God, Holds On

First of all, Jesus loves you, then He warns you and prays for you, and what else? Then He holds on to you. Someboay says, "Hold to God's Unchanging Hand." That is all right as far as it goes. You ought to pray and trust, but as far as your safety is concerned, it ought to be the other way. *God holds on to you!* How can I hold on when my hand is not unchanging? I am too weak to hold on, but He is the unchanging God. He holds on.

When Peter was warned, when Peter was prayed for, when he denied Jesus and when Jesus turned and looked on him in that last night — do you suppose it was in anger? Did Jesus say, "I told you, I warned you, I told you you would fall into sin. Why didn't you listen? You didn't pray, you didn't read your Bible when I tried to teach it to you! You got out in bad company, and now you have done what I told you you would!" Was there anger in the eye of Jesus when He, the persecuted and mistreated and despised and denied, turned those sad eyes on Peter? What was in that look of Jesus when He looked on Peter? When you get out and do wrong, God is looking at you, Christ is looking at you. What is in that look? Sinning Christian, listen to me, you loud talking, quick-tempered, critical, hot-headed Christians, the Lord Jesus Christ is looking at you when you sin! What is in His mind? Grief, I think is there. Anger? No, I don't think so, in some sense maybe. Reproach? Some. Scorn? Does He say, "I am done with you! I have tried and tried, and you have promised and promised, but now I am done with you?" No, No!

What is in that look? I will tell you what was in that look when Peter had denied Him three times because he didn't pray and didn't study His Bible. It was a love that would never let go! That is what was in that look. Jesus turned and looked and with infinite compassion said, "Peter, I am sorry, and you hurt me, but I love you. I am praying for you. Your are my sheep and I will not let you go. You are mine!" What was in that look? "Oh, I will not let you go. I warned you and prayed for you, and the devil can't get you. You are mine. I will not let you go!"

When Jesus stood there that day with the crown of thorns on His head and when they spit in His face and had condemned Him to die, yet He took time to look at Peter with love and compassion and forgiveness, and Peter went away with a broken heart. He couldn't get away from the love of Christ! Holding on!

Jesus rose from the dead after a while and said, "Mary, I want you to carry a message for me." She said, "All right." "Go tell my disciples, Matthew, John, the whole bunch of them, tell them, all my disciples. I want them to meet me in Galilee, and tell Peter especially." "Go tell my disciples and Peter." Peter didn't think he would be counted as one of the disciples any longer. He thought "Judas is not counted with the disciples any more. He has betrayed Jesus and then gone out and hanged himself, and I am not fit to be in that crowd." So Peter may have thought.

There is a man who is a member of this church. He came here after many years as a drunkard and was saved, wonderfully saved. The night I baptized him, he said, "Until seven weeks ago, I have been drunk for twenty-five years!" He came on here, and we loved him, and he gave his testimony. Then one day he drank some beer, and he has never felt like coming back. He is so ashamed. He ought to be ashamed, but my heart goes out in love to him, and I want him. He didn't do any worse than Peter, and he didn't do any worse than I have done and you have done and the rest of us. We ougntn't to let people like that go. Jesus didn't let them go. (To be continued).

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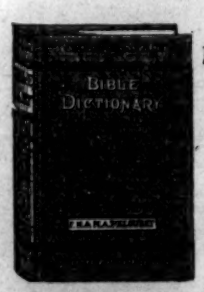

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"MISTAKES" IN THE BIBLE—

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

that was in the space everywhere around the earth, and in the clouds fell, and the earth was covered with water. If there is a God, He could do that, and if there is not a God, there was no flood.

Now on the other hand, is it scientifically true? I answer back, yes. I have heard scientists tell a most interesting story. By the way, I would like to have Brother Harry Rimmer down here sometime. For many years he spent six months of each year in his work as a scientist and six months preaching, and he would certainly have these infidel scientists hating him. And that gentleman could prove it. He is now preaching in Duluth, Minnesota.

A group of scientists got together over yonder in Sumaria, about where Ur of the Chaldes was. There they found some old cities. They would dig down a few feet under this city, and find another older city. And under that they found another older city, one after another; cities that had lain for hundreds of years there. After a while they came to what they said was virgin soil. There were no bones here. By virgin soil, they mean it was not carried in on anybody's feet, it was not decayed brick and mortar brought up there for buildings. They dug into this virgin soil and there were no bones there. There was no evidence that any man ever touched this at all. And they thought they had better quit digging. But they said, "Let's go on down a little further," and they went down eight feet through clean virgin soil that had in no way been touched, no remains of buildings, no stone masonry, no clay tablets, no bones, none of these things that show man had been there. They went down over eight feet, and suddenly they found there another civilization, the ruins of another city. They scratched their heads, did these scientists and they said, "This couldn't have happened but one way." They tried at another place, and all over that country when they got down to a certain depth, they found the same thing under about eight feet of virgin silt. They said that had to come from a mighty flood that wiped out the former civilization. They found under that silt the ruins of old houses built before the flood. After that dirt was washed eight feet deep over the top, then men built cities again. You say there is no evidence about a flood? Anyone is a fool not to believe it. Why? A case like that proves that the Bible is true, and man can believe it, to be sure.

Somebody asked me this question, "What about the dinosaurs. What about those great animals of which skeletons have been found? Those on exhibit by Sinclair actually were made by men, that's true, but they have actually found bones like those you see pictured by the Sinclair Oil exhibit. Of course they have to guess about a part of the form, the skin and so on. But what about those animals?

Here is an interesting thing. Did you ever read anything in the Bible about dragons? There was a time back there when "smart alecs" used to say the Bible isn't true because it talks about dragons. That's right, it does talk about dragons. And it talks also about leviathan and sea serpents and many other things. We must keep this in mind, every race of people has a memory of myths and legends of some kind of terrible beasts that used to exist, but that do not now. Probably during the time of the flood they were destroyed. Many animals have become extinct. Where is the American carrier pigeon? There are not any left alive in the whole world, and there used to be multitudes of them. What happened to them? They were killed out. What about the dinosaurs, then. There must have been many of them before the flood and they all drowned in the flood, or maybe a couple of a kind were kept alive, but when they came out and there were not enough green stuff, they might have died and there are no more left. That is easy. Sure.

Here is another question. Some one says, "What do you believe about Joshua's long day? Do you believe that Joshua spoke the word and the sun stood still in the heaven?" I wouldn't argue whether the sun stood still or whether the earth stood still, but as far as the relation of the sun, the sun stayed right where it was until Josnua was done with that fight and then it moved on. The fact is, the scientists have found out that you can go back through the ages for hundreds of years and one day somewhere is missing. There is evidence through the study of astronomy that somewhere the earth slipped a cog and didn't turn over one time. That was evidently when Joshua commanded the sun to stand still.

Jonah and the Whale? Jesus Believed It

Someone says, "Do you believe in the miracles in the Bible? Some way I can't believe about Jonah and the whale. A whale couldn't really swallow a man and the man stay alive for three days and nights." Did you see this in Ripley's "Believe it or Not?" A certain preacher went to a town on the coast of Main which was a whaling village, where they sent out ships for whales and sperm oil every year. And a man came to town who said about the whale swallowing Jonah that it wasn't so, that a whale couldn't swallow a man, etc. and there were men present who had known of cases where there would be a fight with a whale. They used to fight a whale in rowboats. They would go out from the ship and row up to the whale quietly so they wouldn't disturb him, and throw a harpoon and stick it in him, and sometimes the boat would be capsized and a man would be overboard and there were some present who knew of cases where a whale actually swallowed a man. . .and they sometimes killed the whale. . .and they rode him out of town on rails. I saw that in the paper, did you see it? Is there anybody here who saw that? Yonder is somebody, and over there, and over there. What am I saying? Just this, that I have seen a whale big enough to swallow a man. I have seen the skeleton, just the skull of a whale's head about as big as from that post to the one over yonder (20 feet). When his mouth was opened up, he could swallow not only a man, but he could swallow a horse. I have seen a whale so large that he had to go on a flat car and yet you say he couldn't swallow a man!

But you say, "How can you explain it?" I don't have to explain it. One word explains it. If God could make a whale and make a man, then God can let the whale swallow the man and keep him alive and bring him out alive. Put God in there and there is no difficulty about the story of Jonah and the whale. Some one says, "But that is awfully hard for me to believe." Let me show you something that will make it easier for you to believe. The Lord Jesus Christ believed it and said in Matthew 12:40:

> "For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three night in the heart of the earth."

Now that is what Jesus said, and if Jesus believed it, I can afford to believe it, too. I remind you of this. When you don't believe the story of Jonah and the whale, then you ruin Jesus Christ as my Saviour, for He is no Christ and not the Son of God if He believed a lot of lies. If you can't believe the Old Testament, you can't believe the New Testament. If you can't believe what the Bible says about Jonah, then you can't believe what it says about Jesus Christ.

Somebody said, "Well, these miracles. . ." It comes down to this, and I want everybody to face it. It comes down to this. Either God is a miracle working God or we haven't got a God. You haven't got the God of the Bible if you haven't got a miracle working God. If the miracles of the Bible did not actually happen, then we have no Bible. We will have to throw away our God, and we will have to throw away Christ and the Christian religion and we will have to throw away the Bible if the story of Jonah and the whale isn't so.

Some one says, "Well, I can't believe that fire came down from Heaven and destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah." Jesus did. Some one says, "I can't believe the story of the flood." Jesus did, and He said, "As it was in the days of Noah so shall it be when the Son of man comes." Jesus told the story and He believed it and quoted it. If He believed it, I can afford to believe it. If anybody has gotten smarter than Jesus Christ and you don't believe the Bible, I am sorry for you, Brother. You have nobody home upstairs. You have rooms to let, unfurnished. Sure you have. Anybody who has got so smart that you don't believe what Jesus himself taught and believed about the virgin birth, don't believe about Jesus raising people from the dead, about Him being raised from the dead Himself bodily, you are too smart for your own good. You say, "Do you believe that Jesus rose absolutely with a human body out of the grave? Do you believe that?" Yes, I believe every bit of it. "And do you believe that Jesus really fed five thousand people with only five loaves and two fishes?" Yes, Sir! "And," you say, "do you believe that about cleansing the lepers and giving sight to blind eyes?" If Jesus is the Son of God He ought to do that. He talked like He could do it. The Bible sounds like He did it. Why should not I believe it? This Bible is true, every bit of it.

Camp Meeting —

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

on the grounds divided into two compartments, one for men and the other for ladies. You may put your cot under this tent for seventy-five cents for the ten days or for ten cents per night. So to rent a cot for fifty cents and put it in this tent for seventy-five, it would cost you only $1.25 for the ten days. If you have your own tent or camping outfit, it will cost you nothing for space to camp. There are several frames for canvass on the ground, and if you have a wagon cover or canvass stack cover, bring it and use one of these frames, they are free, and first come, first served.

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